



# Family Farming Development Programme in Niger



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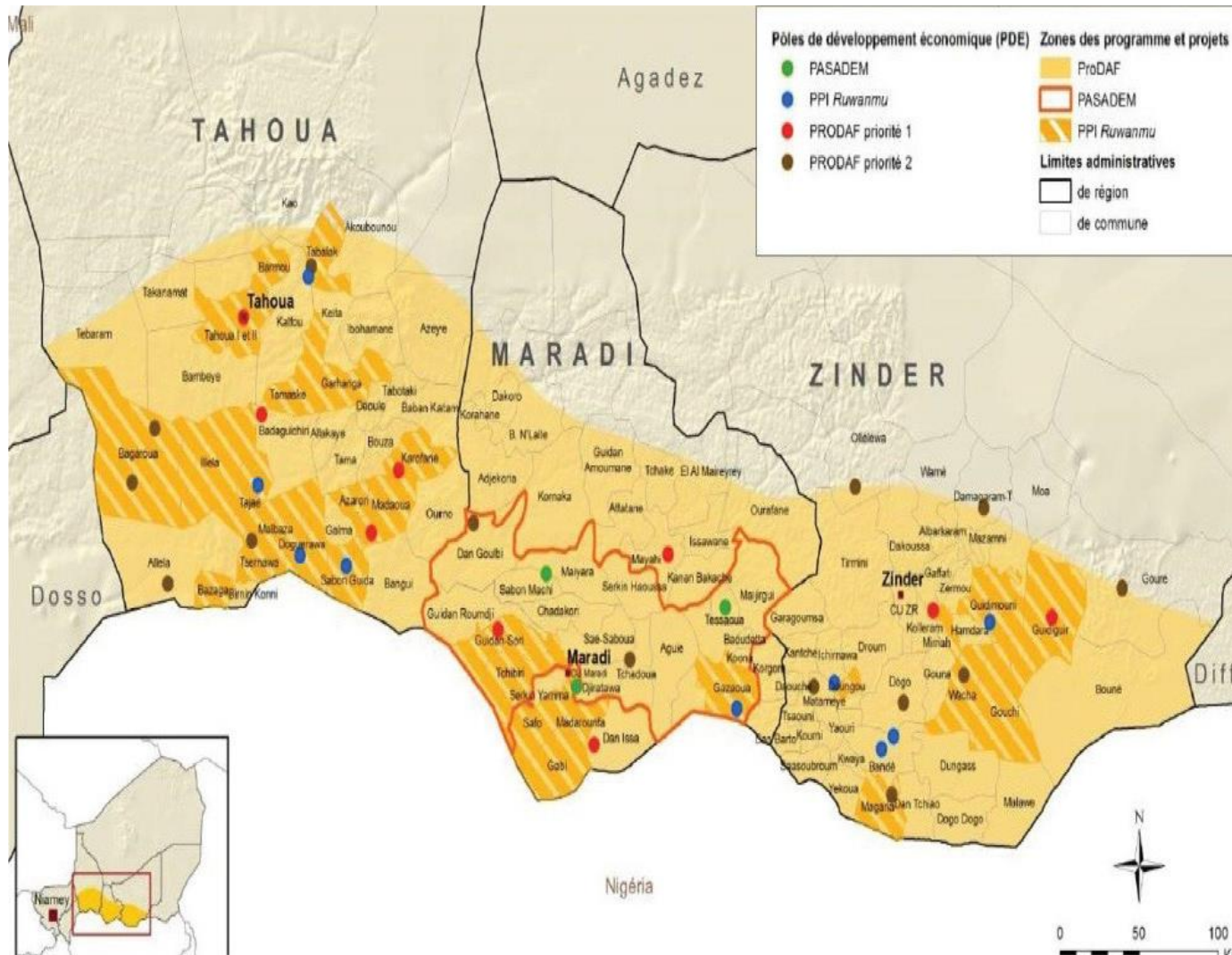
Investing in rural people



# Family Farming Development Programme in Niger

PROJECT FULL NAME	COUNTRY & REGION	IMPLEMENTING AGENCY	IFAD
Family Farming Development Programme (ProDAF)	Niger, Africa 	EXECUTING AGENCIES	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, High Commission for the Nigeriens Feed Nigeriens Initiative (HCi3N)
GEF PROJECT ID: <b>9136</b>	FOCAL AREAS		
PROJECT TYPE: <b>FSP</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Biodiversity,</li><li>▪ Climate Change Mitigation</li><li>▪ Land Degradation</li><li>▪ Climate Change Adaptation</li><li>▪ Food Security</li></ul>	06/01/2015 Project Approval	06/22/2019 Mid-Term Review
GEF PERIOD: <b>GEF-6</b>		GEF Project Grant <b>\$7,636,422</b>	Co-financing Total <b>\$65,300,000</b>





## Environmental Challenges

- The program was designed to address both long-term (climate change impacts on production potential) and short-term (food and nutrition security) impacts.
- Wind and water erosion is leading to siltation of watersheds, deforestation, loss of animal and vegetal biodiversity, and declining groundwater level in the regions.
- These threats are also resulting from land tenure pressures, and widespread unsustainable land and natural resources management practices.
- The project adaptively addresses these issues through knowledge sharing and learning across three regions, Maradi, Tahoua and Zinder.



# Integrated Approach

- Applying integrated natural resources management and land restoration approach to improve food security, enhance resilience, adapt and mitigate climate change and conserve biodiversity
- The project is making progress in tackling the main drivers of environmental degradation together with the most vulnerable family farmers in Niger.

About Photo: Mowing the plants along the water ponds, to ensure the proper flow of water, to avoid it smothering related to oxygen problems and excess organic matter. This water is used for multi-purpose such as aquaculture, agriculture etc.







Key feature 1:

## Scaling up successful practices through capacity building

- **Strong engagement of beneficiaries**, the most vulnerable family farmers in the regions, is an important element of the program's success and sustainability.
- The assisted natural regeneration and land rehabilitation practices allowed the poorest to participate in the activities and to take the best advantage of them, improving quality of their land and increasing yields with locally appropriate simple techniques.
- These **direct benefits to the most vulnerable family farmers** are vital incentives for them to actively engage in the program.
- **Capacity building for both family farmers and local and national governments** is another important feature of the program including farmer's school in the villages.
- With the capacity building for governments, **national policy** on sustainable land management started **fully implementing** on the ground and **mainstreaming into the Niger's Economic and Social Development Plan 2017-2021**.

About the Photo: income generation activities : harvesting forage for animals after regeneration of degraded lands





## Key feature 2:

# Strengthening institutional framework

- The project is executed by the **Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock**, which works closely with the High Commission for the Nigeriens Feed Nigeriens Initiative (HCi3N).
- The project also **collaborates with major stakeholders** related to water, irrigation, environmental issues and local small businesses including the Regional Directorate of the Environment, Water User Associations, local authorities (communes), Public Building and Works, regional services for waterworks, and the Regional Agriculture Chambers.
- These major stakeholders engagement in the project promoted **synergy of action across different stakeholders**.

About the Photo: One of the rehabilitation techniques applied in the areas





## Lessons Learned

- Building on a successful IFAD and GEF projects, the project **scaled up sustainable natural resource management** in Niger's the most affected regions by wind and water erosion.
- **Knowledge sharing and exchanging platforms** on sustainable land management and land tenure among family farmers and local governments was a key to scaling up the project.
- As a result of the project, the **Platform for Dialogue on Sustainable Land Management** was established at the national and regional levels.
- **Shared integrated approach** to address land degradation, water, GHG emission and biodiversity loss beyond the country (for instance, at the UNCCD COP14 in India, September 2019).
- **Strong partnership with research institutions** was useful to improve scientific monitoring and impact evaluation.

About the Photo: One of the community's income generation activities through bee keeping. In the calabashes, you could see honey harvested.



# Results and Global Environmental Benefits

By mid term review:

- 10,491 ha (50% of the total target) of degraded land recovered, \_\_\_\_\_
- 75,065 ha (39% of the total target) of land is regenerated,
- 39% resurgence rate of woody and herbaceous plants species disappeared due to climate change,
- Reduction of GHG emission, estimated at -6.3 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq per hectare per year for biomass, and -5.3 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq per hectare per year for soil,
- Increase in agricultural production up to 3 times higher yields by the sustainable land management,
- Increase in household income to XOF 70,000 (approximately \$117) per year, and
- Improve market access for smallholder farmers

About the Photo: income generation activities : harvesting forage for animals after regeneration of degraded lands







## For more information

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